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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/934,678	08/23/2001	Kazuhito Gassho	110466	8387

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EXAMINER

POKRZYWA, JOSEPH R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2625	

DATE MAILED: 07/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.	Applicant(s)	
09/934,678	GASSHO ET AL.	
Examiner	Art Unit	
Joseph R. Pokrzywa	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 May 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 21-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 21-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 5/8/06 has been entered.

Response to Amendment

2. Applicant's amendment was received on 5/8/06, and has been entered and made of record. Currently, **claims 21-34** are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. **Claims 21-34** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nosaki *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 5,673,373, cited in the Office action dated 4/21/05).

Regarding **claim 21**, Nosaki discloses a print system (see Figs. 1-7) comprising at least one at least one printer (print server 2), and at least one client (user terminal 1 and/or file server

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3) connected to the printer via a network (column 3, lines 14-59), wherein the client comprises a printing job generator which generates a printing job of confidential printing based on an input instruction from a user (being a “secret print”, see Fig. 8); and a printing job transmitter which transmits the printing job to the printer via the network (column 7, line 9-14), wherein the printer comprises a printing job receiver which receives the printing job from the client via the network (column 7, line 9-14), a storing executor which temporarily stores the received printing job as printing job data in an auxiliary memory device (column 3, lines 42-59, and column 6, lines 9-31, and column 9, lines 13-35, being the secondary memory), a reader which reads the printing job data from the auxiliary memory device (column 9, lines 30-67), a print executor which executes printing operation based on the printing job data read by the reader (column 9, lines 24-67, and column 11, lines 29-51), a set portion in which whether or not the received printing job is held as printing job data in an auxiliary memory device even after printing of the received printing job is completed is set not for each printing job but comprehensively (column 9, lines 23-29, being the “memory print mode”), a judging portion which judges whether or not the received print job is of the confidential printing (see Fig. 19), and a selective deleter which deletes the printing job data from the auxiliary memory device after the printing operation is completed if the judging portion judges that the printing job is of the confidential printing, even when the set portion is set so that the printing job is still held as the printing job data in the auxiliary memory device even after printing of the received printing job is completed (column 11, lines 52-column 12, line 9, see Figs. 19 and 25).

Regarding *claim 22*, Nosaki discloses the system discussed above in claim 21, and further teaches that the selective deleter does not delete the printing job data from the auxiliary

memory device after the printing operation is completed if the judging portion judges that the printing job is not of the confidential printing, when the set portion is set so that the printing job is still held as the printing job data in the auxiliary memory device even after printing of the received printing job is completed (column 11, lines 52-column 12, line 9, see Figs. 19 and 25).

Regarding **claim 23**, Nosaki discloses the system discussed above in claim 22, and further teaches of a status changer which changes a status of the printing job data stored in the auxiliary memory device before printing to the status indicating that the printing job data should be held after the printing operation, if the printing job should be held as printing job data in the auxiliary memory device after the printing operation is completed (column 11, lines 52-column 12, line 9, see Figs. 19 and 25).

Regarding **claim 24**, Nosaki discloses the system discussed above in claim 23, and further teaches that the set portion is allowed from the client via the network to be set comprehensively so that the received printing job is held as the printing job data in the auxiliary memory device even after printing of the received print job is completed (column 9, lines 23-29, being the “memory print mode”).

Regarding **claim 25**, Nosaki discloses the system discussed above in claim 24, and further teaches that the auxiliary memory device is a hard disk drive in the printer (column 3, lines 42-59, and column 6, lines 9-31, and column 9, lines 13-35, being the secondary memory).

Regarding **claim 26**, Nosaki discloses the system discussed above in claim 24, and further teaches that the confidential printing is set for each printing job (being a “secret print”, see Fig. 8).

Regarding *claim 27*, Nosaki discloses the system discussed above in claim 24, and further teaches that the confidential printing is set for each connection established between the printer and the client (column 7, lines 9-45).

Regarding *claim 28*, Nosaki discloses a method for controlling a print system (see Figs. 1-7) including at least one at least one printer (print server 2), and at least one client (user terminal 1 and/or file server 3) connected to the printer via a network (column 3, lines 14-59), the printer including a set portion in which whether or not a received printing job is held as printing job data in an auxiliary memory device even after printing of the received printing job is completed is set not for each printing job but comprehensively (column 9, lines 23-29, being the “memory print mode”), comprising the steps of generating a printing job of confidential printing based on an input instruction from a user in the client (being a “secret print”, see Fig. 8); transmitting the printing job from the client to the printer via the network (column 7, line 9-14), receives the printing job from the client via the network in the printer (column 7, line 9-14), temporarily storing the received printing job as printing job data in the auxiliary memory device in the printer (column 3, lines 42-59, and column 6, lines 9-31, and column 9, lines 13-35, being the secondary memory), reading the printing job data from the auxiliary memory device (column 9, lines 30-67), executing printing operation in the printer based on the printing job data (column 9, lines 24-67, and column 11, lines 29-51), judging whether or not the received print job is of the confidential printing in the printer (see Fig. 19), and deleting the printing job data from the auxiliary memory device after the printing operation is completed if it is judged that the printing job is of the confidential printing, even when the set portion is set so that the printing job is still

held as the printing job data in the auxiliary memory device even after printing of the received printing job is completed (column 11, lines 52-column 12, line 9, see Figs. 19 and 25).

Regarding **claim 29**, Nosaki discloses the method discussed above in claim 28, and further teaches that the printing job in the auxiliary memory is deleted after the printing operation is completed if it is judged that the printing job is not of the confidential printing, when the set portion is set so that the printing job is still held as the printing job data in the auxiliary memory device even after printing of the received printing job is completed (column 11, lines 52-column 12, line 9, see Figs. 19 and 25).

Regarding **claim 30**, Nosaki discloses the method discussed above in claim 29, and further teaches of a step of changing a status of the printing job data stored in the auxiliary memory device before printing to the status indicating that the printing job data should be held after the printing operation, if the printing job should be held as printing job data in the auxiliary memory device after the printing operation is completed (column 11, lines 52-column 12, line 9, see Figs. 19 and 25).

Regarding **claim 31**, Nosaki discloses the method discussed above in claim 30, and further teaches that the set portion is allowed from the client via the network to be set comprehensively so that the received printing job is held as the printing job data in the auxiliary memory device even after printing of the received print job is completed (column 9, lines 23-29, being the “memory print mode”).

Regarding **claim 32**, Nosaki discloses the method discussed above in claim 31, and further teaches that the auxiliary memory device is a hard disk drive in the printer (column 3, lines 42-59, and column 6, lines 9-31, and column 9, lines 13-35, being the secondary memory).

Regarding **claim 33**, Nosaki discloses the method discussed above in claim 31, and further teaches that the confidential printing is set for each printing job (being a “secret print”, see Fig. 8).

Regarding **claim 34**, Nosaki discloses the method discussed above in claim 31, and further teaches that the confidential printing is set for each connection established between the printer and the client (column 7, lines 9-45).

Citation of Pertinent Prior Art

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Nezu (U.S. Patent Number 5,638,511) discloses a system for maintaining security in a communication output means.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joe Pokrzywa whose telephone number is (571) 272-7410. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (571) 272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Joseph R. Pokrzywa
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2625

jrj



JOSEPH R. POKRZYWA
PRIMARY EXAMINER